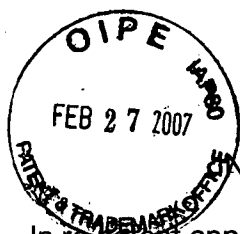


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97086/00074



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of
WALTER, Herbert

U.S. Serial No. 10/582,539
(U.S. National Phase of International
Patent Application No. PCT/CH2004/000 679)

Confirmation No.: 9943

Filed: June 9, 2006

For: DEVICE FOR SUSPENDING
ARTICLES OR FOR MOUNTING A SHELF

Group Art Unit: 2833

Examiner: TBA

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant and his attorney respectfully request that the following patents and patent publications be made of record in the official United States Patent and Trademark Office file relating to the above-identified patent application. The citation of the following patents and patent publications should not be construed as an admission that they constitute statutory prior art with respect to the present invention. In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, copies of the foreign patent publications are enclosed.

U.S. Patent Nos.

5,485,933*

5,961,082

6,371,313

6,631,813

Foreign Patent Publications

European Patent Publ. No. EP 0 716 825 B1

European Patent Publ. No. EP 0 834 274 A2*

Intl. Patent Publ. No. WO 97/26809 A1

Intl. Patent Publ. No. WO 99/20094 A2

Intl. Patent Publ. No. WO 01/41604 A1

Intl. Patent Publ. No. WO 01/43599 A1

Intl. Patent Publ. No. WO 01/87123 A1

British Patent Publ. No. GB 2 224 923 A*

British Patent Publ. No. GB 2 284 345 A*

The above-listed patent and foreign patent publications that are designated with an asterisk (*) were cited in an International Search Report issued in connection with applicant's corresponding International Patent Application (i.e., International Patent Application No. PCT/CH 2004/000679). Attached hereto is a copy of the International Search Report which provides an indication as to the relevance of these references perceived by the European Patent Office. The remaining foreign patent publications are discussed within the "Prior Art" section of the specification of the present application.

All of the above-mentioned European and International Patent Publications are in a foreign language. While English language translations of these references are not presently available, applicant's attorney notes that European Patent Publication No. EP 0834274 A1 is cited in the aforesaid International Search Report. In addition, there is an English-language abstract on the face of each of the International Patent Publications. Also, U.S. Patent No. 5,961,082 is a counterpart to European Patent Publication No. EP 0716825 B1. Upon the

Examiner's request, applicant's attorney will submit an English-language translation of any of these European and International references. In such circumstances, no further comments concerning the relevance of the foregoing patents and patent publications with respect to the patentability of the present invention are deemed necessary.

In order to facilitate the Examiner's citation of the patents and patent publications listed above, applicant's attorney has completed United States Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO/SB/08A . The completed Forms are attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. If any fees are due, including extension and petition fees, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 503571.

Respectfully submitted,

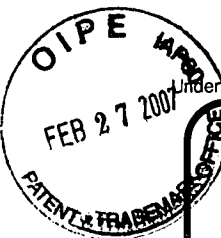
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/582,539	
			Filing Date	June 9, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Herbert Walter	
			Art Unit	2833	
			Examiner Name	TBA	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	97086/00074

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
↓	/S.P./	US- 5485933	1-23-96	Crooymans	
		US- 5961082	10-5-99	Walter	
		US- 6371313	4-16-02	Walter, et al.	
		US- 6631813	10-14-03	Walter, et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
/S.P./			EP 0 716 825 B1		6-19-96	Walter		
			EP 0 834 274 A2		4-8-98	Rolindez		
			WO 97/26809 A1		7-31-97	Walter		
			WO 99/20094 A2		4-29-99	Walter, et al.		
			WO 01/87123 A1		11-22-01	Walter, et al.		
			WO 01/41604 A1		6-14-01	Walter, et al.		
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			GB 2 284 345 A		6-7-95	Smith		
			GB 2 224 923 A		5-23-90	Rigby		

Examiner Signature	/Sarah Purol/	Date Considered	01/01/2009
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinés Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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